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SUNDAY SCHOOL

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SERVICES

FOR THE USE OF

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

ESTABLISHED IN

Christ's Church, Longwood;

A GOSPEL CHURCH, — THE FIRST OF A UNION OF CHURCHES IN THE SPIRIT OF CHARITY.

BOSTON:
PRINTED BY JOHN WILSON & SON,
22, SCHOOL STREET.
1861.

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NOTICE.

THE Minister of Christ's Church, Longwood, — or, in his absence, the most suitable person among the teachers of the Sunday School, — shall open the School with the following Sentences of Scripture, and then read the Selected Service for the children.

After the service is closed, the Minister or Teacher is to read to the children the Address on the "Elements of Christianity;" and, when that is finished, he is to notify the several teachers present to assemble the children in their separate classes, and instruct them in such manner as their respective parents may sanction and direct.

N.B.—The Sunday-school Service takes the place of the Afternoon Service in the Gospel Churches. It may be shortened on the discretion of the Minister or Teacher; but the Prayer to Almighty God, the Ten Commandments, and the Words of our Saviour, must be read previous to the Address to the Children.

A

SELECTED SERVICE

FOR THE

Use of Young Children,

TO TEACH THEM THE ELEMENTS OF CHRISTIANITY, AND PREPARE THEIR MINDS FOR SUCH FURTHER INSTRUCTION AS THEIR FRIENDS MAY SELECT.

Order for the Sunday School

OF

CHRIST'S CHURCH, LONGWOOD.

¶ The Minister shall begin the selected service by reading the following sentences of Scripture:

THE LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.—*Hab.* ii. 20.

From the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same, my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the Lord of hosts.—*Mal.* i. 11.

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be alway acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer. — *Ps.* xix. 14.

¶ Then the Minister shall say,

DEARLY beloved, the Scripture moveth us, in sundry places, to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of our heavenly Father, but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart, to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought, at all times, humbly to acknowledge our sins before God, yet ought we chiefly so to do when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most

worthy praise, to hear his most holy word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me, with a pure heart and humble voice, unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying, —

¶ A General Confession for the whole School.

O GREAT and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep; we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts; we have offended against thy holy laws; we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done: and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O

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All things obey thy will; and this glorious earth, with the thousand brilliant worlds which circle round thee, are governed by thy law. In wisdom hast thou made them all.

We are taught to worship thee, O Eternal and Almighty God, through the mysterious union of a holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity; and to ascribe to our Father in heaven all might, majesty, dominion, and power, as God, Governor, and Judge of the world we live in. We thank thee that our Father has promised us eternal life, and salvation in the day of final judgment, through the mediation of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ; and that, by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, we are permitted to offer up to thy all-glorious majesty our humble supplications and prayers, believing in thy justice, and trusting to thy mercy hereafter.

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Submissively we bow before thee, and entreat thy pardon for our transgressions. To thee belong might, majesty, dominion, and power over us. And we pray thee, heavenly Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities. Remember, O Lord, that our flesh is weak, and tends to evil; and that, while soul and body are bound together by perishable matter, we may be daily tempted beyond our strength. Succor us, we beseech thee, in our troubles, and send us aid in our distress, that, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, we may have a heart to love, and not to fear, thy judgments.

O gracious Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways; we have followed the devices of our own hearts; we have offended thee; we are miserable sinners. But thou, O God, have mercy upon us; spare us who confess our faults; restore

us who are penitent; and enable us finally to attain eternal life, through thy promises declared to all mankind in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

To our Saviour.

O blessed Lord, our Saviour, O Christ, our Comforter, beloved Son of our heavenly Father, thou didst receive man's form to save him from the effects of sin, and didst endure the sharpness of death to obtain for him the kingdom of Heaven. We thank thee, we praise thee, we bless thee, and worship thee for ever.

Without thy manifestation, our own unworthiness would have left us subject to the law; but thou, O gracious Saviour, in thy abundant love, didst mediate in our behalf, and gave thy body a living sacrifice for our salvation. Eternal life is in thee, and through thee; and, by thy precepts, we hope to be made partakers of the hea-

venly kingdom thou hast prepared for us. O holy Jesus, splendor of the Father, brightness of eternal light, and King of glory, we are thy disciples and followers for ever; and will constantly endeavor, through thy help, faithfully to live and walk according to thy law. Pardon, then, our sins, we humbly beseech thee, and save our souls to dwell with thee in life everlasting.

To the Holy Ghost.

O glorious Holy Ghost, the Lord of life, and Giver of every perfect gift; who proceedest from the true and living God, through the Father and by the Son to us; and with the Father and the Son art worshipped and glorified, — O Holy Spirit, replenish us with thy grace, and endue us plenteously with thy heavenly gifts. Grant, we beseech thee, that we may receive, from thy inspiration, wisdom, understanding, and

counsel, fortitude, knowledge, and piety; so that, through them, we may obtain their blessed fruits of charity, joy and peace, patience and goodness, fidelity and love, and such other Christian virtues as are necessary to salvation. Look upon us with an eye of mercy; comfort us with a sense of thy goodness; and enable us so to live, that, when this painful life is ended, we may dwell with thy Holy Spirit in life everlasting. Amen.

¶ A lesson of the New Testament, as it is appointed, may here be read.

¶ Then the Minister shall say,

The Lord be with you, and with your teachers.

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us, and grant us thy salvation.

O God, make clean our hearts within us, and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

ETERNAL and Almighty God, great Spirit of the universe, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Minister.

THESE are the commandments delivered to Moses by the God of Israel, for the government of the Jews.

I AM the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no strange gods before me.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Remember that thou keep holy the sabbath-day. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all that thou hast to do; but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt do no manner of work, thou and thy son and thy daughter, thy man-servant and thy maid-servant,

thy cattle, and the stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Honor thy father and thy mother.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt do no murder.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not steal.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house; thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his servant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is his.

Children. Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

¶ Then the Minister may say,

Hear also what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: —

THE SAYINGS OF CHRIST.

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

¶ Let us pray.

FATHER in heaven, vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to direct, sanctify, and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments, that, through thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul, through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

¶ Then may be read the Collect of the day, with the Selection from the Gospel; the Minister saying, "The holy Gospel is written in the —— chapter of ——, beginning at the —— verse."

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

¶ A Collect for Peace.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, do proceed, give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments; and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

¶ A Prayer for all Conditions of Men.

O GOD, the Maker and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men, that thou wouldst be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially, we pray for thy holy church universal, that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spi-

rit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

¶ A General Thanksgiving.

FATHER of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this

life; but, above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE grace of our Father in heaven, the love of Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

¶ End of the Selected Service for the Sunday School.

¶ Here follows the Address to Young Children.

AN

ADDRESS

TO

Young Children,

TO TEACH THEM THE ELEMENTS OF CHRISTIANITY.

To be read by the Minister, or a Teacher of the Sunday School, immediately after the Selected Service.

ADDRESS.

MY dear children, remember always that your Father in heaven made you. He made the sea and the dry land, the hills and the fields. He made the grass and the trees, and every thing which grows upon the earth. He made the beasts, the fishes, and the birds, and every thing which has life.

Your Father in heaven gives you life and strength. He gives you power to see and hear, to speak and move. He gives you reason and conscience, and the means of improving in knowledge and goodness. He gives you your kind parents, your

teachers, your friends, and your home. He gives you food and clothes and quiet sleep. He gives you the air which you breathe, and the pleasant light which shines around you. He gives you all that you have.

Your Father in heaven sees you at all times, — all the night, and all the day. He sees you when you are alone, when no other person sees you. He knows all that you think, and all that you do. He knows all that you want, and hears you if you pray to him for his care and blessing.

You must often think of your Father in heaven as your best friend, and Judge, to whom the Almighty Spirit of the universe has given dominion and power over the whole world as its God and Governor; and you must regard every thing which you enjoy as his gift. You must love him better than you love any other being, and be happy to please and obey him. You must

fear nothing so much as to offend him. You must never speak of him in a careless manner, or take his name in vain. You must pray to him for what you need, especially in the morning and at night. You must thank him for what you receive, though it may not be all that you wish. You must bear patiently, and try to be better for, the sickness and pain which he sees fit to bring upon you.

You must love and obey your parents, and be thankful to them for the tender care they take of you. You must treat with respect those who are older than yourself. You must love your brothers and sisters, and must be generous and affectionate to your companions. You must forgive those who have injured you; and, if you have injured any, you must ask their forgiveness. You must pity the wretched, and be kind to the poor. You must speak the

truth, keep your promises, and never try to deceive by your looks, words, or actions. You must be honest, and must take nothing which belongs to others. You must not be cruel, and must not willingly give pain to any thing which has life. You must try to make all around you happy.

You must be active and industrious. You must be ready and happy to learn. You must be contented and cheerful, even when you cannot have what you want. You must not be fretful, wilful, or passionate. You must not be proud or vain of any thing which you have, but be modest and humble. You must learn to give up and avoid every thing which will do you hurt. You must be governed by reason and conscience, and not by your wishes.

You will then have peace in your own mind. You will not be ashamed or afraid

to have your actions known. You will grow better and happier as you grow older. Your parents and friends will love you, and will look on you with pleasure and hope. Above all, your Father in heaven will love you, and delight to make you happy.

But, if you do wrong, you will feel pain and fear and shame at thinking you have done wrong. You will grow worse as you grow older. Your parents and friends will be displeased with you, and will look on you with sorrow. Above all, your heavenly Father, and God, will be offended with you; and he will punish you unless you repent.

You should remember your evil conduct with sorrow; and, as far as you can, you should repair it, and resolve and strive to do so no more. You should humbly confess your sins to your gracious Father in

heaven, and should pray to him, through Jesus Christ, to forgive you, and to assist you in doing better.

My dear children, Jesus Christ is the well-beloved Son of our heavenly Father, and was sent into the world to save us from error and sin, from death and misery.

Jesus Christ taught us the true character of Almighty God, and also of his Father in heaven, — our Father, — that he is holy and merciful and great and wise and good. He taught us that we should love God with all our hearts; and that we should love all our fellow-creatures, and do to others as we should wish and expect them to do to us. He promised to us, that if we believe in him, and confess and forsake our sins, and obey his instructions, we shall be forgiven, and live for ever in heaven.

Jesus Christ was perfectly good: he

was holy and undefiled. He grew up obeying his parents; and remembered his mother with tenderness, even in his dying moments. He constantly thought of God, and prayed to him; and it was his joy to do the will of his heavenly Father. He went about doing good,— healing the sick, opening the eyes of the blind, raising the dead, and teaching the ignorant and poor. He took little children in his arms, and blessed them. He was full of compassion for the miserable; and even prayed for his murderers, on the cross.

For our sakes, he became poor, and led a life of toil and hardship. He was reviled, mocked, and scourged by wicked men. He was nailed to the cross, and shed his blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

He was buried; and, as he told his disciples before his death, he was restored to life, and rose again on the third day. He

ascended to heaven, where he still lives to pray for us, and continually performs kind offices for us.

If you are good in this world, you will be welcomed into heaven by your Saviour, and will be ever under his care. You will have no sickness nor sorrow nor pain, but will have rest and joy for ever. You will be like the angels in heaven, and will have the friendship and love of all good beings. You will enjoy the presence and favor of your heavenly Father, and will be always learning to love and serve him better.

But, if you are wicked, you can then never be happy. The wicked must always be miserable. You will not be received into the light and joy of heaven. Your heavenly Father will send you from his presence, and leave you to the fearful punishment which your sins deserve.

To become good and happy in this life and the life to come, you must pray to your heavenly Father, your God and Judge; and to your Saviour, Jesus Christ, without whose blessing you can do nothing, for assistance and direction. You must recollect at night what you have done and thought and felt through the day, that you may make your future life better than the past. You must often think that God sees you. You must shun wicked companions, and try to obtain the friendship of the good. You must set the example of Jesus Christ continually before you. You must make a good use of the Lord's Day. You must be serious and attentive at church, and must receive with gratitude at home the instruction of your parents. When you are old enough, you must partake the Lord's Supper, which is designed to bring to your remembrance Jesus Christ dying for you;

having first learned your duties and responsibilities in the form prescribed by your parents.

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